Expenditure on foodgrains

*419. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the average cost of procurement, transportation and storage of one million tonne of rice per day;

(b) the average cost of procurement transportation and storage of one million tonne of wheat per day; and

(c) the present stock, with break-up, of rice and wheat?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) The cost of procurement, transportation and storage of rice and wheat is approximately as under:-

(Rs. in crore)

	2002-03 (RE)	
	Wheat	Rice
Procurement cost (for 1 million tonnes)	778.27	1095.00
Transportation cost (for 1 million tonnes)	77.00	77.00
Storage cost (per day for 1 million tonnes)	0.14	0.14

(c) The provisional stock position of wheat and rice in the Central Pool, as on 1st March, 2003 was as under:—

(in lakh tonnes)

Commodity	Stock Position
Rice	176.13
Wheat	185.80

Import of edible oils

*420. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to import 61.44 lakh tonne edible oils during the current fiscal year;

(b) if so, whether this was due to the lower production during 2002-03;

(c) if so, to what extent it would be still less during 2003-04 and the actual demand; and

(d) to what extent Government are confident of meeting the shortage through imports?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (d) In order to ensure the availability of edible oils in the domestic market, import of the same (except coconut oil) is allowed under Open General Licence (OGL). The net domestic availability of edible oils during the year 2002-03 was about 48.63 lakh MT against an estimated demand of 103.00 lakh MT. In the previous year, 2001-02, an import of about 42.14 lakh MT of edible oils was made to meet the domestic requirement.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Employment in KVIC

2937. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is going to generate employment for 20 lakh persons during the current year and if so, in what manner;

(b) the extent of employment provided by KVIC in the year 2001-02; and

(c) the programmes under which this was done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM): (a) The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is to generate employment for 8.48 lakh persons under Khadi sector and 54.17 lakh persons under the Village Industries (V.I.) sector and an additional employment to 4 lakh persons is targeted to be generated under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) in the current year (2003-04).